Woman Avadhuta Mayamma of Kanyakumari. Tamil Nadu

AI Overview

Devi Mayamma (also known as Mayee Ma or Mother Mayee) was a mysterious and revered female avadhuta (liberated soul) who spent decades wandering the shores of Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. Appearing like a beggar and living without possessions, she was renowned for her silent nature, her deep connection to stray dogs, and her profound spiritual presence. [1, 2, 3, 4]

Life and Practices

- **Mysterious Origins:** Her true name, background, and age were unknown. Her physical features led some to believe she hailed from northeastern India (like Assam) or Tibet.
- **Unorthodox Lifestyle:** She lived on the beachfront without shelter, often completely unaware of hunger or weather. She never gave religious discourses and maintained a vow of silence.
- **Love for Animals:** She was constantly surrounded by a pack of stray dogs, feeding them before eating herself.
- **Mystical Feats:** Locals and devotees witnessed her performing miraculous acts, such as swimming out into the deep sea, floating on the ocean waves for hours, and starting crackling fires using wet seaweed and discarded cigarette butts. [1, 2, 4]

Spiritual Connections

Though she lived simply, she was recognized as a great realized soul by renowned spiritual masters.

- She was visited by other realized saints like **Yogi Ramsuratkumar**, **Sri M** (Mumtaz Ali), and **Sadguru Sri Gnananandagiri Swamigal**.
- Many devotees, including spiritual teacher **Sadhguru**, have spoken highly of her extraordinary and unconventional state of God-consciousness. [1, 4, 7, 8, 9]

Final Years and Samadhi

In 1986, Devi Mayamma left Kanyakumari alongside an attendant and relocated to the city of Salem, Tamil Nadu. She spent her final years there until she attained *Mahasamadhi* (the final conscious departure of a yogi) on February 9, 1992. Her *Jeeva Samadhi* (shrine) is located in Chinnakollapatti, Salem (off the Salem-Yercaud Road), where devotees continue to visit and pay their respects. [6, 9, 10]

If you would like to know more, let me know:

- Would you like details on how to **visit her Jeeva Samadhi in Salem**?
- Are you interested in the **stories and encounters** recorded by writers like Sri M?
- Do you want to learn more about the **philosophy of an avadhuta**?

AI responses may include mistakes.

[1] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOqWHwca78w
[2] https://themysticalmystics.wordpress.com/2021/01/17/mayamma/
[3] https://santhipriya.com/2018/10/mayammaa.html
[4] https://www.facebook.com/groups/544869345614418/posts/6585512094883416/
[5] https://hinduscriptures.com/devi-mayamma/
[6] http://siddhasofindia.blogspot.com/2013/09/devi-mayamma-of-kanyakumari.html
[7] https://mayammasamajam.org/about.php
[8] https://www.facebook.com/sadhguru/videos/mayamma-the-mysterious-lady-saint-great-beings-ep2-sadhguru/758347081359508/
[9] https://www.facebook.com/SmartSalemSmartSalem/posts/salem-have-you-know-that-a-women-avadhootas-or-saint-of-recent-times-devi-mayamm/2446825488909566/
[10] https://www.facebook.com/Adiyogiindumathi/videos/avathootha-maya-amma-jeeva-samadhi-salem-tamilnaduin-the-holy-shore-of-kanyakuma/856948337230842/

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Stories and encounters recorded by writers like Sri M:

The mystical encounters and anecdotes surrounding Devi Mayamma capture the raw, unpredictable nature of an *avadhuta*. Written accounts by spiritual figures like Sri M (detailed in his books like *The Journey Continues*) and testimonies from other contemporary saints reveal her profound state of consciousness. [1, 2]

Sri M's Encounters: Transcending the Senses

In his spiritual travelogues, Sri M describes his visits to Kanyakumari to catch a glimpse of the elusive Mayamma. [1]

- The Silent Gaze: Sri M notes that she never spoke, but her eyes held a piercing, universal awareness. When he sat near her on the hot beach sands, her silent presence communicated a deep state of *Samadhi* (meditative absorption) that effortlessly quieted the minds of those around her. [1, 2, 3]

- The Shared Feast: Sri M observed her eccentric eating habits. She would grab food or accept offerings, take a bite, and immediately distribute the rest to her pack of stray dogs. She would then offer the remaining scraps as *prasad* (blessed food) to high-profile visitors and spiritual seekers. To Mayamma, there was absolutely no distinction between a street dog and a human disciple. [1]

Yogi Ramsuratkumar: The 12-Hour Silent Meet

One of the most famous encounters in modern Indian spiritual history occurred in September 1976 when Mayamma temporarily left Kanyakumari and was driven to Tiruvannamalai to visit the mystic Yogi Ramsuratkumar. [1]

- **The Midnight Vigil:** According to records shared by devotee blogs and witnesses, Mayamma sat inside a parked car all night while Yogi Ramsuratkumar sat on a raised platform nearby. [1]
- **The Silent Exchange**: They spent nearly 12 hours staring at each other without uttering a single word. At dawn, right before departing, Mayamma broke her absolute silence and muttered a single phrase in Hindi to the Yogi: *"Kaam jaldi karo"* ("Do the work fast"). When onlookers asked the Yogi about the meeting, he simply bowed and remarked, *"Oh, Mayamma came to bless this beggar. That is all."* [1, 2]

Anecdotes of Her Mystical Habits

Other writers, local shopkeepers, and disciples like Sadhu Rangarajan recorded extraordinary daily occurrences on the beaches of Kanyakumari: [1, 3]

- **The Steals and the Blessings**: Mayamma would occasionally march into local South Indian tea stalls, open the glass display trays, grab handfuls of *idlis*, and hurl them onto the streets for the dogs. While initially beaten or branded a thief by unaware people, shopkeepers soon realized a pattern: whichever shop Mayamma "stole" from would experience a massive, unprecedented rush of business for the rest of the day. Soon, vendors would pray for her to raid their stalls.
- **Defying Nature:** Multiple eyewitnesses recorded seeing her walk directly into rough ocean waves during storms. She would float effortlessly on the deep sea for hours like a piece of wood, returning to the shore laughing heartily.
- **The Seaweed Fire:** On freezing or rainy nights, she would gather wet sea-weed, soggy banana stems, and discarded cigarette butts from the beach. With a mere touch or a glance, she would cause the wet pile to spontaneously combust into a roaring, crackling fire to warm her animal companions. [1, 2, 4]

Ref: mysticalmystics.wirdpress.com

Avadhoota Mayamma of Kanyakumari

In the holy shore of Kanyakumari, where the three oceans meet, there once lived a great soul. Some called her Amma, others called her Devi, sages called her Mother of the World. That was Devi Mayamma of Kanyakumari, one of the greatest Avadhootas of recent times.

No one knows when Mayamma first appeared on the sea shore. She walked on the hot sand, unaware of the heat or hunger. She was often seen swimming in the ocean or sitting on slippery rocks among the waves. Devotees who flocked to see her would wait for hours till she returned laughing from the sea. On land she was always surrounded by a pack of adoring dogs. She fed them whatever scraps of food she found, and with the same joyful look in her eyes, fed people too. Amma would collect cigarette butts, wet sea-weed and soaking plantain stems that littered the beach and miraculously set them ablaze into a crackling fire at night.

Amma never claimed to be anything special. But everyone who came to her was enveloped by the mysterious waves of kindness and compassion which flowed from her gaze.

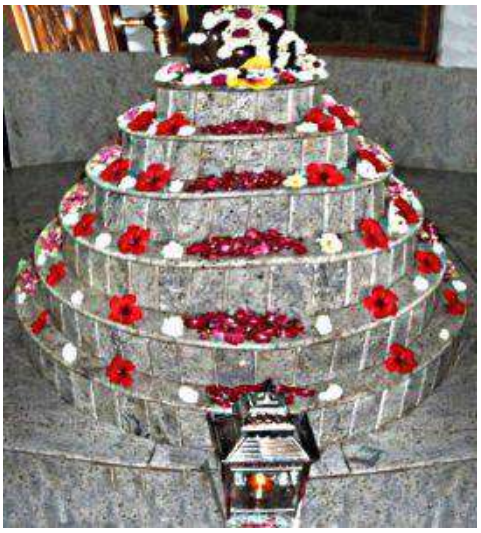
Many claim to have been freed from incurable diseases by Amma's grace. Many others claim to have been blessed with prosperity and happiness by her boons. Amma had her curious ways too. She would step into any one of the seaside teashops, grab the idlys in the trays and hurl them out on the street for her dogs to eat. Shopkeepers would wait at dawn with baited breath hoping that Divine Mother would step into their shop first. It would be roaring business that day, they claim.

Sri Satya Sai Baba, Mata Amritanandamayi, Sankaracharya, Sri Chandrasekhara Saraswathi, Mouna Guru of Northern India, Jaggi Vasudev and other well known holy persons have sought Devi Mayamma's blessings and urged their devotees to visit her.

Renowned Avadhoots like Sri Koti Swamigal and Sri Poondi Mahan have praised her as the Mother of the Universe. She was also visited by President Zail Singh and other dignitaries. And then one day in 1986, Devi Mayamma disappeared from Kanyakumari! Where did she go? Where is she now?

Devi Mayamma left Kanyakumari along with her faithful attendant and disciple Rajendran. Sri Rajendran used to look after her like a loving son. She moved to Salem (5/184, Mayamma Kovil, Santhi Nagar, Chinnakollapatti, Salem-636008.) and settled into a little house with Sri Rajendran, his wife and three children. She lived in that beautiful place on the outskirts of the pleasant hill station of Yercaud for six long years. Rare and fortunate

devotees sought her blessings there till she finally gave up her earthly form in Maha Jeeva Samadhi.



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Ref: Google Gemini

Devi Mayamma of Kanyakumari

Greatness of Avadhuta Mayamma

Devi Mayamma was one of the most remarkable and mystical female **Avadhutas** (liberated souls who live beyond worldly norms and body consciousness) of the 20th century. She lived in a state of pure, non-dual consciousness (Advaita). Completely oblivious to heat, cold, hunger, or societal expectations, she was regarded by great contemporary sages—including Sri Chandrasekhara Saraswathi (the Paramacharya of Kanchi), Yogi Ramsuratkumar, Sri Koti Swamigal, and Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba—as an incarnation of the Divine Mother (**Adi Parasakthi**). She radiated immense spiritual brilliance and peace entirely through her silent presence.

Location, Birth, Parents, Childhood, and Young Age

The early life of Mayamma is shrouded in deep mystery, as is typical of high spiritual masters who abandon their past identity.

- **Birth & Parents:** There are no official or authentic records regarding her date of birth, her original name, or her parents.
- **Origins:** It is widely believed by spiritual circles and early observers that she originally hailed from **Assam**. Some spiritual masters speculated that she completed intense, unorthodox penances (Sadhana) in sacred regions like Kasi, Nepal, and Tibet before migrating to the southern tip of India.
- **Appearance in Kanyakumari:** She was first spotted on the sea bed and shores of Kanyakumari around the **1920s or 1930s**. To the average tourist, she initially appeared to be a wandering, impoverished woman clad in tattered rags, but the local fishermen and spiritual seekers quickly recognized her divine nature.

Spiritual Inclinations, Her Guru, and Sadhana

- **Spiritual Inclinations:** From the moment she was seen in Kanyakumari, she demonstrated total detachment from the material world. She possessed no body consciousness (Deha-bhavana). She lived under the open sky, sleeping on the bare beach sands, roadsides, or rocks amidst the lashing waves.
- **Her Guru:** Mayamma never spoke of a human Guru. As an Avadhuta, her initiation was internal and divine. She resided naturally in the ultimate state of Sahaja Samadhi.

- **Sadhana:** Her spiritual practice was unorthodox and elemental. She would frequently swim deep into the ocean or float on the waves for hours like a teenager. At night, she had a unique habit of gathering sea debris, wet seaweed, and plantain stems with her bare hands and miraculously setting them ablaze into a large fire, sitting before it in deep meditation for hours.

Teachings, Written Works, or Discourses

- **Written Works & Discourses:** Devi Mayamma left **no written works, books, or recorded verbal discourses**.
- **The Teaching of Silence:** She spoke absolutely nothing. Her teaching methodology was **Mauna** (eloquent silence). Through her absolute stillness and cosmic silence, she communicated profound wisdom and transmitted peace to seekers trying to realize the Truth.
- **Universal Love in Action:** Her life itself was her discourse. By wandering with animals and feeding them before herself, her unwritten message was: *"Love all creatures. See God in everything. Work silently without expecting any reward, and find the kingdom of God within."*

Miracles Performed

Mayamma did not deliberately perform miracles to show off; rather, extraordinary events occurred naturally in her presence (Siddhis):

- **Healing the Dying Dog:** For decades, Mayamma was constantly surrounded by a large pack of 40 to 50 dogs. Once, a dog was run over by a speeding vehicle on the streets of Kanyakumari, and its intestines came out. While bystanders watched helplessly, Mayamma rushed over, placed the dying dog on her lap, gently pushed the organs back into place, and stroked it. The dog instantly revived, stood up, and ran away joyfully. This incident catalyzed the local public's realization of her divinity.
- **The Blessing of Prosperity:** She would randomly enter beachside tea stalls or restaurants, grab plates of *idlis* or other food, and fling them to her dogs. Instead of being angry, shopkeepers eagerly prayed for her to enter their shops first, because whichever shop she took food from would experience skyrocketing, unprecedented sales that day.
- **Materialization from the Sea:** On one occasion, a saint named Arumugam Swamigal was looking for a Ganesha idol for a shrine. Sensing his desire, Mayamma walked into the deep ocean and emerged from the waves holding a beautifully crafted, pristine idol of Lord Ganesha, which she gifted to him.

Her Main Disciples

- **Sri A.R.P.N. Rajamanickam Nadar:** A prominent devotee who recognized her greatness through the guidance of his own Sadguru. Seeing her sleeping in the open, he obtained permission from local authorities and built a small cottage for her near the Lord Ganapathy Temple in Kanyakumari.
- **Sri Rajendran:** Her most faithful attendant and closest disciple. He looked after the Divine Mother like a loving son, protecting her physical frame, managing the crowds of seekers, and serving her unconditionally until her final days.

Final Days, Death, and Samadhi/Memorial Ashram

- **Departure from Kanyakumari:** In **1986**, after spending several decades on the seashore of Kanyakumari, Devi Mayamma quietly left the town along with her disciple Sri Rajendran.
- **Move to Salem:** She relocated to **Salem, Tamil Nadu**, and settled in a quiet, beautiful house on the outskirts near the foothills of the Yercaud hill station. She stayed there for six years, blessing fortunate devotees who tracked her location.
- **Maha Jeeva Samadhi:** On **February 9, 1992**, Devi Mayamma shed her mortal coil and entered Maha Samadhi.
- **The Samadhi Shrine:** Her sacred physical remains were interred at the site, which is now a beautifully maintained memorial ashram.
- **Ashram Address:**

  Mayamma Jeeva Samadhi (Mayamma Kovil),

  5/184, Shanthi Nagar, Chinnakollapatti (near Kannankurichi),

  Salem — 636008, Tamil Nadu.

Present State of the Ashram and Daily Routines

  - **Atmosphere:** The Salem Samadhi Ashram is universally described by visitors as an incredibly serene, powerful, and intoxicatingly peaceful space. It is entirely non-commercialized.
  - **The Notice Board Philosophy:** For years, a prominent notice board placed by her late disciple Rajendran guided the visitors: *Do not offer money or donations in kind. Just come to Amma's samadhi, sit, meditate, and leave.*
  - **Daily Routines:** The shrine opens daily for devotees. Unlike ritual-heavy temples, the core activity here is **silent meditation (Dhyanam)**. Visitors, both locals and spiritual seekers from distant cities, arrive and sit in pin-drop

silence in front of the Samadhi for hours to soak in her lingering spiritual energy.
    - **The Canine Legacy:** True to Mayamma's life, several calm and peaceful dogs still freely roam and inhabit the ashram premises, treated with utmost respect and care by the caretakers and visitors alike.

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Ref: GrokAI

Avadhuta Mayamma (also known as Devi Mayamma)

Avadhuta Mayamma (also known as Devi Mayamma, Mayee, Mayee Devi, or Mother/Goddess of Kanyakumari) was a revered female Avadhuta (a liberated, unconventional saint often appearing "mad" or detached from societal norms) who lived primarily on the shores of Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu. She is regarded as one of the greatest Avadhutas of recent times, an embodiment of divine feminine energy (often linked to Adi Parashakti or Kamakhya Devi), and a silent teacher whose presence radiated compassion, universal love, and spiritual power.

Location
Primarily associated with the seashore of **Kanyakumari** (the southern tip of India where the Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Sea meet). She later moved to Salem in Tamil Nadu, where her Jeeva Samadhi is located.

Her Parents, Birth, Childhood, and Young Age

Very little is known with certainty. Her origins, birth date, parents, and early life remain shrouded in mystery. No reliable records exist, and she did not disclose details about her past. Some traditions and intuitive revelations suggest she may have manifested or come from Assam (linked to the Kamakhya temple as an incarnation of the Divine Mother) and arrived in Kanyakumari as a young girl (possibly around 10 years old) or in the 1920s. She appeared among fishermen and lived an ascetic, unconventional life from the time she was noticed. Claims of specific parents (e.g., Venkataramana Rao and Yamuna Bai) appear inconsistent with most accounts and likely refer to another figure.

Spiritual Inclinations

From early on (as observed in Kanyakumari), she exhibited profound detachment, living without shelter, possessions, or concern for food, heat, or social norms. She swam deep into the ocean for hours, sat on rocks amid waves, collected debris to light fires miraculously, and was constantly surrounded by dogs (symbolic of lineages like Dattatreya or Bhairava). Her behavior appeared "abnormal" to outsiders but reflected pure consciousness and non-dual

awareness. She showed unconditional love for all beings, sharing food with dogs and people alike.

Her Guru and Sadhana

No specific human guru is prominently mentioned; as an Avadhuta, she is seen as self-realized or divinely incarnate. Her sadhana (spiritual practice) was highly unorthodox and silent: living in the open, extreme detachment, swimming in the sea, interacting with nature and animals, and maintaining silence. She performed intense inner practices, possibly linked to past penances in places like Kashi, Tibet, or Nepal according to some accounts. Her life itself was the sadhana—embodying pure consciousness without formal rituals or teachings.

Teachings

She taught primarily through **silence** and example, not speech or writings. Her message, inferred from her conduct: universal love for all creatures (seeing God in everything, great or small), compassion, selfless service, detachment from worldly norms, and realizing the divine within. "Love all the creatures. See God in everything. Work silently without expecting any reward. Raise yourself and see the kingdom of God within. Float in the sea of pure consciousness." Her presence transformed devotees, emphasizing that true spirituality transcends appearances.

Her Temple or Ashram

- **In **Kanyakumari**:** A small cottage was built for her near the Ganesha temple, and the **Mayamma Samajam** was established (building opened 1978) near the lighthouse by devotee Rajamanickam for spreading her message. It hosts poojas, bhajans, and discourses.
- **In **Salem**:** Her Jeeva Samadhi Mandir at 5/184, Mayamma Temple, Santhi Nagar, Chinnakollapatti, Salem-636008. This is the main site now.

Main Disciples

- **Sri Rajendran** (and his family): Her foremost and most devoted attendant/disciple. A former mason who quit his job to serve her selflessly for years (cooking, caring for her needs, etc.). He accompanied her to Salem and cared for the Samadhi site.
- Others include Rajamanickam (who built the Samajam), Sadhu Prof. V. Rangarajan (who wrote about her and received blessings), and many unnamed devotees. She influenced or was visited by figures like Yogi Ramsuratkumar.

Miracles Performed (If Any)

She did not claim or perform miracles ostentatiously; they occurred in her presence. Notable examples:

- Healing a dog run over by a vehicle (reinserting intestines; dog recovered fully).
- Materializing a Ganesha idol for a devotee.
- Saving fishermen from drowning in the sea.
- Miraculously lighting fires with wet debris.
- Healing incurable diseases, granting prosperity, and resolving problems through her grace or prasad (e.g., chewed tobacco for cancer in one account).
- Appearing in visions or influencing devotees profoundly (e.g., Sadhguru's experience at her Samadhi).

Written Works or Discourses

None. She was mostly silent and did not write or give formal discourses. Her "teaching" was through presence, gestures, and life example. Books about her exist, notably by Sadhu Prof. V. Rangarajan (*Divine Mother Mayee of Kanyakumari*).

Present State of Ashram and Daily Routines

The Jeeva Samadhi in Salem is active and visited by devotees for dhyana (meditation) and japa. The site is described as peaceful and conducive to spiritual practice. Mayamma Samajam in Kanyakumari continues with daily poojas, prayers, bhajans, and discourses. Annual events include Chitra Poornima, Ram Navami, Gokulashtami, Sarad Navaratri, and Aradhana (Samadhi day) on February 9, with annadanam (feeding devotees and the poor). Sri Rajendran or successors manage the Salem site. Devotees report a strong spiritual atmosphere.

Any Other Info

- She was visited or praised by many saints and figures (Sadhguru narrates visiting her Samadhi; associations with Sathya Sai Baba, Amritanandamayi, Kanchi Shankaracharya, etc.).
- She undertook a rare tour in 1976, visiting places like Thapovanam and Tiruvannamalai (meeting Yogi Ramsuratkumar).
- Passed into Maha Jeeva Samadhi on February 9, 1992 (Sashti day), in Salem after about 6 years there.
- Her life highlights the Avadhuta tradition: transcending duality, appearing unconventional to awaken true vision in seekers.

Information is drawn from devotee accounts, websites like mayammasamajam.org, and writings; as with many saints, details blend history, legend, and reverence. Visiting the Samadhi is recommended for direct experience.

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Ref: ClaudeAI

AVADHOOTA DEVI MAYAMMA OF KANYAKUMARI

Here is a comprehensive account of Avadhoota Devi Mayamma of Kanyakumari, compiled under the headings you requested:

1. GREATNESS & SIGNIFICANCE

Some called her Amma, others called her Devi, and sages called her Mother of the World. Devi Mayamma of Kanyakumari was one of the greatest Avadhootas of recent times. (Blogger) She radiated spiritual brilliance and served as a lighthouse, leading people from darkness to light, from illusion to reality. (Mayammasamajam) His Holiness Poondi Mahan once suggested her age could be around 470 to 485 years (Santhipriya) — an extraordinary claim reflecting the reverence devotees held for her.

2. LOCATION

She lived on the shores of Kanyakumari, at the confluence of three seas — the Bay of Bengal, the Indian Ocean, and the Arabian Sea. She was scantily dressed in torn rags, surrounded by dogs, had no home and no shelter, and resided in pure consciousness. (Mayammasamajam)

3. BIRTH, PARENTS & ORIGINS

Neither her birth details nor her past are known to anyone; her origins are shrouded in mystery. Some believe she may be Goddess Parasakti manifested from the Kamakhya temple in Assam and came to Kanyakumari in the form of Mayamma. (Santhipriya)

Nobody really knows where she came from, but based on her physical features, most probably she came from the north-eastern states — either from Nagaland or somewhere with similar features. (Dharmapublication)

Although it is widely believed she hailed from Assam, no one knows for certain. Her age is a matter of speculation, and her agility defied her appearance. (Mayammasamajam)

Her actual name was Mayamayi. Several of the older generation of Kanyakumari still remember her miracles. (Sannidhi)

4. CHILDHOOD & EARLY LIFE

No records of her childhood or parents exist. The general opinion has been that the silent and mysterious saint arrived in Kanyakumari sometime during the 1920s. (Santhipriya)

When first spotted on the seashore, she was scantily dressed in torn, tattered rags, wandering on the sand surrounded by several dogs — whether day or night, she was seen resting or sleeping on the sand. She never begged for food, and even when some offered food, she ate only a little after sharing with the dogs. (Santhipriya)

5. SPIRITUAL INCLINATIONS & NATURE

She had no permanent shelter and slept anywhere she wished — whether open roadsides, the seashore, or under trees. Spiritual masters say that packs of dogs always stayed around those in the lineage of Lord Kala Bhairava or Lord Dattatreya, as dogs always accompanied these deities. (Santhipriya)

She would suddenly walk into a restaurant, take some food, gather everything, and give it to people nearby or feed the dogs that followed her. Curiously, once Mayamma took food from a shop, sales at those stores would skyrocket — every store owner eagerly awaited her visit. (Santhipriya)

She spoke nothing, although she knew many languages. By her silence, she could communicate the wisdom needed by those yearning for Truth. (Mayammasamajam)

6. HER GURU

One of the disciples of Sri Kulandai Ananda Swamigal (also known as Sri Gnananandagiri Swamigal) who lived in human form until very recently was Mayamma of Kanyakumari. (Sannidhi)

It was this great Sadguru who first revealed her glory to the broader world of South India.
Sadguru Sri Gnananandagiri Swamigal, who was the pontiff of Jyotir Mutt for a time and later did intense penance in the icy caves of the Himalayas, established an ashram at Thapovanam on the northern bank of the South Pennar river near Tirukkoilur.
He once described Mayamma to a devotee as "a precious, priceless gem" — saying, "The Goddess is not in the temple. She is outside the temple, roaming around in torn clothes, carrying an old bundle, accompanied by dogs." (Mayammasamajam)

7. SADHANA (SPIRITUAL PRACTICES)

Mayamma was seen sitting on the rocks of the seashore or even rocks inside the sea. Suddenly she would jump into the ocean, go deep, collect sea moss and waste, bring them to the shore, pile them up, and light fire to them with bare hands — without matchsticks. In Hindu tradition, Siddha Purushas in penance light fire and perform yajna for reasons known only to them. (Santhipriya)

She used to swim from the shore all the way to Vivekananda Rock and deep into the sea with the agility of a teenager. For hours and hours she floated in the seawater. (Mayammasamajam)

Khanda Yoga — one of the most challenging forms of yoga in which the body's various parts are separated and then reassembled — is thought to help keep the body free of worldly attachments. It was regularly practiced by Shirdi Sai Baba. Curiously, a few have also seen Mayamma performing Khanda Yoga. (Santhipriya)

8. TEACHINGS

She did not teach anything by speech or in writing. Her silence itself was eloquent. By her own conduct and actions she gave the message of universal love: "Love all creatures. See God in everything. Work silently without expecting any reward. Raise yourself and see the Kingdom of God within. Float in the sea of pure consciousness." (Mayammasamajam)

Her primary teaching was through her very being — unconditional love for all living creatures, whether dogs, fishermen, or the sick. By feeding dogs and people with the same joyful look, she showed that God lives in all living creatures, great or small. (Mayammasamajam)

9. HER TEMPLE / ASHRAM AT KANYAKUMARI

Sri A.R.P.N. Rajamanickam Nadar, a devoted follower sent by Sadguru Gnananandagiri Swamigal, came to Kanyakumari and immediately found Devi Mayamma on the seashore. Seeing her without even a hut to stay, Rajamanickam constructed a small cottage south of Lord Ganapathy Temple after obtaining permission from temple authorities. (Mayammasamajam)

Rajamanickam started the Mayamma Samajam in 1978 at Kanyakumari, to spread awareness about Devi Mayamma. The building was opened on 7th September 1978. (HinduPad) It was situated opposite the Lighthouse — while the lighthouse guided ships on the ocean, Mayamma Samajam served as a beacon of light to help people cross the ocean of samsara and reach the shore of self-realization. (Mayammasamajam)

10. NOTABLE VISITS & MEETINGS WITH OTHER SAINTS

On 26th September 1976, Mayamma made a rare journey outside Kanyakumari.

She first went to Tuticorin, then to Kasavanampatti near Dindigul to bless Avadhoota Mouna Swamigal, and from there to Thapovanam to pay respects at the Mahasamadhi of Sadguru Gnananandagiri Swamigal.

She then went to Tiruvannamalai, where she and Yogi Ramsuratkumar were locked in silent conversation for 12 hours. At the end, she said in Hindi: "Kaam jaldi karo" — meaning "Do the work fast." She returned to Kanyakumari on the morning of 28th September 1976. (Mayammasamajam)

Spiritual masters who played a key role in spreading her fame included Poondi Swamigal, Pollachi Koti Swamigal, Tirukovilur Gnananandagiri Swamigal, Marunthuvaamalai Naina Swamigal, Kuttalam Mouna Swamigal, Kasavanappatti Mouna Jyothi Swamigal, and Yogi Sarath Kumar Swamigal.

Even former Prime Ministers and the President of India visited her, addressing her as the Goddess of Kanyakumari. (Santhipriya)

She was also visited by President Zail Singh and other dignitaries. (Blogger)

11. MAIN DISCIPLES

Sri Rajamanickam — the devotee sent by Sadguru Gnananandagiri Swamigal, who built a cottage for her and founded the Mayamma Samajam.

Sri Rajendran — Rajendran was deeply devoted to Vadalur Vallalar Swamigal. While in service he had heard much about Mayamma; he accidentally got a new job in Kanyakumari and encountered her. Slowly he spent most of his time around her, eventually became her disciple, and quit his job to be with her full time. Spending 13 years with her gave him several unique spiritual experiences. He was instrumental in bringing Mayamma to Salem, where she attained Samadhi, and he later constructed her Samadhi temple. (Santhipriya)

Sri M (Mumtaz Ali) — the author of "Apprenticed to a Himalayan Master," mentions meeting Mayamma and receiving her blessings. (Sannidhi)

12. MIRACLES

Healing of the dog: A dog was run over by a speeding vehicle and its intestines came out. Mayamma came running, lifted the dog, placed it on her lap, gently inserted the intestines back into their normal place, and the dog came alive, stood up, and ran away. This incident became the talk of Kanyakumari and people began to worship her as Divine Mother. (Mayammasamajam)

Saving fishermen: On numerous occasions, Mayamma saved exhausted fishermen from drowning in fierce turbulence. She would appear from nowhere and pull them to safety.

She was frequently observed swimming effortlessly 20 to 30 kilometres from the shore.
IEven when fishermen offered her a lift in their boats, she would gently refuse, swim beside them, and then abruptly disappear — only to be found sitting on the shore laughing, waiting for their return. (Santhipriya)

Healing of Pon Kamaraj: A tapasvi named Pon Kamaraj had an acute boil on his thigh that no doctor could cure; he was given a seven-day deadline by doctors.

Mayamma forced him to lie flat on the sand and, despite his agonized cries, put a thin, red-hot iron rod through the boil.

When he woke up, the boil had vanished, leaving his thigh completely free of pain and visible scars. (Santhipriya)

Lighting fire miraculously: Mayamma would collect cigarette butts, wet sea-weed, and soaking plantain stems littering the beach and miraculously set them ablaze into a crackling fire at night. (Blogger)

Rain miracle at Salem: When rains failed completely in Salem after Mayamma settled there, locals resented her and planned to drive her away. That very night, rains lashed Salem so heavily that all water bodies and reservoirs filled to full capacity — enough to last until the next rainstorm. The locals felt ashamed and sought her forgiveness. (Santhipriya)

13. WRITTEN WORKS & DISCOURSES

Mayamma left no written works and gave no verbal discourses. She did not teach anything by speech or in writing. Her silence itself was her teaching. (Mayammasamajam) All accounts of her life come from devotees' experiences and writings by others about her.

14. FINAL DAYS & PASSING

One day in 1986, Devi Mayamma disappeared from Kanyakumari. She moved to Salem and settled in a small house with Sri Rajendran, his wife and three children, living on the outskirts of the pleasant hill station of Yercaud for six long years. (Blogger)

In 1986, Mayamma herself informed Rajendran that she wanted to take Samadhi in a particular location in Salem. It was barren land, and both began to stay there in a hut constructed under a tree in an isolated place. Devotees would come to take her blessings. (Santhipriya)

Mrs. Latha Mangeshkar, a female teacher from Trichy, spent the entire night sitting beside Mayamma's body after she passed.

She had to keep wiping the body throughout the night because it was perspiring. She was able to freely move Mayamma's hands and legs as if she were still alive — the body remained completely flexible until it was placed inside the pit for Samadhi.

Only Mrs. Latha Mangeshkar witnessed a large flash of light that Mayamma gave her as the pit was closed. (Santhipriya)

Devi Mayamma renounced her earthly form in 1992. (Nativeplanet) One source records the date as 9th February 1992, another as 2nd September 1992 — a small discrepancy in the accounts.

15. SAMADHI & MEMORIAL ASHRAM

The **Mayamma Ashram** in Salem contains the Jeeva Samadhi of Devi Mayamma. She had come from Kanyakumari and lived on the borders of the beautiful hill station of Yercaud until she renounced her earthly form in 1992 at the place where the ashram now stands. Every year on her death anniversary on 9th February, the **Samadhi Day** is celebrated, when thousands of devotees throng to the place. The shrine is maintained by her devotee Sri Rajendran. The atmosphere is serene, where one can meditate, pray, and receive divine blessings. (Nativeplanet)

Address of the Samadhi Ashram:

5/184, Shanthi Nagar, Chinnakollapatti, Salem – 636 008, Tamil Nadu.

16. PRESENT STATE OF ASHRAM & DAILY ROUTINES

Poojas, prayers, and religious discourses are the daily activities of Mayamma Samajam at Kanyakumari. (HinduPad) Paduka Poojas, prayers, bhajans, and spiritual discourses form part of the regular activities. Chitra Poornima, Ram Navami, Gokulashtami, Sarad Navaratri, and the Annual Aradhana of Devi Mayamma are the important functions celebrated. At these functions, all devotees and the poor are fed. (Mayammasamajam)

17. OTHER NOTABLE INFORMATION

Some spiritual masters opine that Mayamma may have been one of the greatest Avadhootas in her previous births; after completing ordained penance in places like Kashi, Tibet, and Nepal, she may have come to Kanyakumari to practice an unorthodox form of sadhana to attain liberation in her last birth. (Santhipriya)

Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev narrated his own experience of visiting her Samadhi, describing it as a remarkable place. (Isha Foundation)

One of Gnananandagiri Swamigal's female disciples once desperately wanted to see Goddess Parasakthi. The Swamigal told her to go to Kanyakumari. She visited every temple but came back disappointed — only to learn later that she had indeed encountered Goddess Parasakthi, when Mayamma herself had offered food directly into her mouth on the beach. She had refused it, not recognising the divine. (Santhipriya)

Devi Mayamma stands as one of the most luminous yet least publicised saints of modern India — a true Avadhuta whose wordless existence, boundless compassion, and extraordinary powers continue to draw seekers to her Samadhi at Salem even today. 🙏

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Videos

Avadhuta Mayi Amna of Kanyakumari (25 min):

https://youtu.be/0iLVsaXL0IM?si=R43J4B9TXP3mfrNp

Mayamma…the mysterious Lady Saint …by Sadguru (8 min):

https://youtu.be/xw0U_rID75E?si=T44Qm3zONueiB-ln

Mayamma, the divine Incarnate (8 min):

https://youtu.be/axu5CIFw6gU?si=8WJegf1dbJxG0ebR

Meeting Mai Ma …Avadhuta of Kanyakumari ..by Sri M (5 min):

https://youtu.be/M3LBrkCO-nM?si=dFmHf0_FEa3V5fIL

Mai Amma …Avadhuta of India (7 min):

https://youtu.be/odAnTottJWU?si=d-a1UFGhHU1gBgY_

Mother of Kanyakumari….travel to Siddha Samadhi (4 min):

https://youtu.be/1hVk0gMnLfM?si=z5-oieiUkxsykVFt

Mayamma of Kanyakumari (7 min):https://youtu.be/yJ8zYY0Fkhs?si=nuIuqyilHZ2gf2wr

Kanyakumari Mayamma (35 min):

https://youtu.be/KSmgamVzaxA?si=BY1BbaO7LPvWCwUb

Kanyakumari Devi Mayamna (56 min):

https://archive.org/search?query=creator%3A%22Dr.%20M.%20Thirumaleshwar%22https://youtu.be/38ruGC5w-fw?si=fLi8WVHae_7G_263

Sadguru's experience of visiting samadhi of Mayamma (7 min);

https://www.facebook.com/share/v/189Mu4zXbD/

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Note: At the end of this ebook, two pages are included (see below), giving (I) Author info, and (ii) a master link and QR code to download all my Technical (viz. Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering) ebooks plus Spiritual ebooks, stored in archive.org.

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About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore,as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at Archive.org.

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
June 9, 2026

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